

INTELLOFAX 4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

25X1

25X1

REFERENCE COPY

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 12 December 1952

SUBJECT Road Construction in the Rhodope Mountain Area

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Early in 1952 (sic), the Bulgarian military authorities requested the Ministry of Construction and Roads to make a study and to immediately prepare plans for constructing six new strategic roads through the Rhodope Mountains. The Ministry, as well as the construction firms, stopped all other work to comply with this request. All the technicians of the Ministry were assigned to drawing up and compiling plans.
2. A meeting was held at the Ministry of Construction and Roads between several Bulgarian generals, among whom was General Panchevski, present Minister of Defense (at that time, an under secretary), and a Soviet engineering major in the uniform of a Bulgarian Army major. At the meeting, the military representatives requested that the construction work be completed in 1950 and that military personnel be used for the project. The Minister, however, wanted the work to be done by the civilian construction organizations.

25X1 3.

25X1

because of the great scarcity of civilian workers, it would be impossible to complete the project by the date requested. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the work should be done by the Trudovaks under the technical direction of representatives of the Ministry of Construction and Roads.

4. The reason for building the six strategic roads requested by the military authorities is the great scarcity of roads in the Greek border area. At the meeting, the generals declared that the roads were needed to fulfill the order of battle plans which at this time consisted of disregarding the Yugoslav frontier and concentrating on increasing security measures on the Greek frontier.

25X1

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

[illegible]

Approved For Release 2004/01/28 : CIA-RDP82-00457R015400270009-7

JOB 56-377 BOX 2^{AD}

23788

25X1

SECRET

25X1

-2-

5. [redacted] the
25X1 [redacted] six roads were to pass through the Rhodopes toward the Greek border and
[redacted] they would have the following general characteristics:
- 25X1 a. They would not have to be masterpieces;
- b. They would presumably carry only second class, not heavy, traffic;
- c. They would be five meters wide with one-meter shoulders;
- d. They would have curves with a minimum radius of 50 meters which would easily handle tank traffic; and
- e. They would be paved with gravel and topped with macadam.
6. Actual construction was begun in early 1950 and was to have been completed by the end of 1950. The work was greatly speeded up in September and
25X1 [redacted] the work was completed on schedule. At the beginning of the project, it was estimated that the cost would be 2,400,000,000 leva.

25X1

SECRET